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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Application of California-American Water
Company (U210W) for Approval of the
Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
and Authorization to Recover All Present
and Future Costs in Rates.

A.12-04-019
(Filed April 23, 2012)

**PUBLIC TRUST ALLIANCE'S MOTION TO REQUEST
CONSIDERATION OF REASONABLE COURSES OF
ACTION CONSISTENT WITH LAW BEFORE
COMMITTING THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC TO AN
UNREASONABLE PROJECT**

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February 6, 2014

I. MOTION

Pursuant to Article 11 of the CPUC Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rule 11.1), the Public Trust Alliance hereby requests that the Commission consider reasonable actions consistent with law before committing the California Public to an unreasonable alternative in the above captioned proceeding. Rule 2.4 requires that the development of California Public Utility infrastructure comply with CEQA, which in turn protects both substantive and procedural public rights. California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et. seq. These rights include more than a mere opportunity to comment on public action, and explicitly guarantee the right that less environmentally harmful alternatives to proposed projects will be considered, including a "no project" alternative. California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et. seq.

The California-American Water Company has proposed a seawater desalination project as a public water supply for several California Cities on the Monterey Peninsula. More reasonable sharing of naturally occurring public fresh water supplies would be a much more reasonable course of public action. Considerable latitude for mutually beneficial arrangements is obviously available and such possibilities should have been open for exploration in "settlement" negotiations undertaken last year pursuant to Article 12 of the CPUC Rules.

While evidence is still being assembled to support the experimental engineering involved in implementing slant wells under a protected Marine Sanctuary and the perhaps unnecessary brine disposal and an energy intensive mode of fresh water production in a vulnerable coastal zone in a time of extreme climate change, perhaps the familiar alternative project involving reservoir operation and a new pipeline at the head of the Salinas watershed could be reinvestigated instead of going through all sorts of legal contortions to avoid public consideration of such reasonable projects that have long been on public agency agendas.

DATED: February 6, 2014

Respectfully submitted,
Public Trust Alliance

By: /s/ Michael Warburton
Michael Warburton
Executive Director
Public Trust Alliance